

## MEN OF THE HOUR.



THE LATE CHARLES J. FOLGER.  
Secretary of the Treasury.

The death of this eminent man, at Geneva, New York, on September 4, 1884, took the nation by surprise. He had been confined to his room only a week, during the greater part of which he gave some attention to his official work as Secretary of the Treasury. The deceased gentleman may be said to have died in harness, and probably his devotion to duty was the cause of the unlooked-for termination of his useful life. Estimates of his character made by political foes as well as friends, agree in what they say of the singular amiability of his character and the conscientious attention which he gave to his official duty in every capacity in which he was called to act. He was a gentleman of high culture, but had not the comprehensive grasp of mind which characterizes the greatest lawyers and statesmen. The late Secretary was an industrious man of detail, a popular gentleman, and most exemplary in his family relations and as a neighbor. He had a commanding appearance, being robust in figure and standing over six feet in height. His habitual carriage was grave and dignified, but he was exceedingly affable and kind in manner and animated in conversation. Geneva mourns her foremost and most respected citizen.

Charles J. Folger was born on the island of Nantucket, April 16, 1818, where his ancestors had settled two hundred years before. In 1830 his parents removed to Geneva, Ontario county, New York, which was his home to the end. After preparation at the schools of Nantucket, and the Plainfield (Conn.) Academy, Mr. Folger became a student at Hobart College, Geneva, where he was graduated in 1836. He then read law with Mark H. Sibley of Canandaigua, New York, a lawyer of eminence in the western part of the State, and subsequently with two other practicing lawyers, and in 1839 was admitted to the Bar. Immediately after he opened an office at Geneva, and soon commanded a good practice. In 1844 he was appointed by Governor Bouck as Judge of the Ontario County Court of Common Pleas, and later received the appointment of Master and Examiner in Chancery. Under the new Constitution, he was, in 1851, elected County Judge of Ontario. He held that office four years, and at the close of his term interested himself in the politics of the State as a Republican. His first political office was that of State Senator, to which he was first elected in 1861. The eight years in which he continued to be a member of the New York Senate were among the most active of his life. He led his party in that body after the first year, for the remaining seven; for four years was its President *pro tempore*, and was Chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the State Constitutional Convention. His loyalty to the Union during the war was distinguished by great earnestness; and the marked integrity of his character and devotion to the interests of the public were a stumbling block to the corrupt men who defiled the politics of the State while he was in the Senate. At the close of his eight years of conscientious hard work in that body, Mr. Folger was appointed United States Sub-Treasurer in New York City. A

year afterward he was elected Judge of the Court of Appeals, and upon the death of Chief Judge Church, in May, 1880, received the appointment to succeed him. He was elected his own successor in the position in the fall of the same year. Judge Folger was appointed Secretary of the Treasury by President Arthur, October 27, 1881. As candidate for the Governorship of New York in 1882, he was overwhelmingly defeated, the Republican forces being divided, but for reasons having no reference to the candidate, whose ability for the office and the integrity of whose character was unquestioned throughout the canvass, the results of which were the triumphant election of Grover Cleveland, the Democratic candidate, and less directly his availability as the nominee of his party for the Presidency.

Mrs. Folger died some years ago, leaving one son, now a farmer in Minnesota, and two daughters, one of whom presided over her father's household to the time of his death. Mr. Folger had trouble with his eyes during the last few years of his life, and his physical condition for several months previous to his death was unsatisfactory. He did not, however, relax in his devotion to duty, and did not arrive at Geneva from Washington for the last time, until August 20th of the present year. The following oft-quoted words have an emphatic application to the career of the deceased lawyer and statesman: "Well done, good and faithful servant."



LEVI P. MORTON.  
United States Minister to France.

Levi P. Morton, who is now at home for a short time on leave of absence from his duties as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Republic of France, has well proved his capacity as a public servant. His present position is one of distinction, being a foreign mission of the first class, and commanding a salary of \$17,500 a year. He has twice been named prominently as a man whose experience fits him eminently for a Cabinet office. Still in the prime of life, the expectation is good that he will serve his country very usefully for years to come.

He is descended from Geo. Morton, one of the Puritan fathers, who landed at Plymouth, New England, in 1623, and is a son of the late Rev. Daniel Morton. His birthplace was Shoreham, Vermont, where first saw the light on May 15, 1824. Having a strong preference for a business career, when sixteen years of age, he was placed in a country store. By the time he attained his majority, he was made a partner by his employer. In 1849 he removed to Boston, where he was admitted as a partner in a wealthy mercantile firm, good fortune due to his ability alone, as he had neither adequate capital nor influential friends to gain him the promotion. Five years after he made New York his residence, and opened a place of business in that city. Prosperity attended him, and in 1863 he founded the banking houses of Morton, Bliss & Co., New York, and Morton, Rose & Co., London.

Mr. Morton was elected to Congress from the Eleventh District of New York in 1878, as a Republican. His majority was over seven thousand votes. He was re-elected two years after. President Garfield nominated him as Minister to France, which

was unanimously confirmed by the Senate in March, 1881. The vacant seat thus created in the House of Representatives was filled by Roswell P. Flower, after a memorable contest, which gave this gentleman his first distinction in American politics. In May, 1881, Mr. Morton was appointed Honorary Commissioner-General to the Paris International Exhibition of Electricity. Dartmouth College gave him the honorary degree of LL.D. in July of the same year.

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General Agent for Hawaiian Islands

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1—Authorized Capital.....\$3,000,000

2—Subscribed ".....2,000,000

3—Paid up ".....500,000

4—Fire Fund and Reserves as at 31st Dec., 1882.....1,274,681

5—Life and Annuity Funds.....3,865,529

6—Revenue Fire Branch.....1,107,124

7—Life and Annuity Branches.....484,798

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TIME TABLE.

STEAMER PLANTER.

BATES.....Commander

Leaves Honolulu for Maunaloa, Kona and Kau on

Wednesday.....October 22, at 4 P.M.

Sunday.....November 3, at "

Arriving at Honolulu on

Wednesday.....Oct 29, at 5 A.M.

Monday.....Nov. 9, at "

STEAMER Iwalani,

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